Testimony for Public Hearing Judiciary Committee January 16, 2015

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OPPOSE: Auden Grogins' nomination to the Connecticut Superior Court

Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I would like to express my sincere opposition to the nomination of Auden Grogins to the Superior Court. A judge must possess many important traits to be qualified to serve, especially as a Superior Court judge.

As you decide the fitness of the nominee, please consider ALL of the following:

- · Legal ability
- Trial or other similar experience that ensures knowledge of the law and courtroom procedures
- A record and reputation for excellent character and integrity
- Financial responsibility
- · Judicial temperament
- · Mental and physical capacity to fulfill the duties of judicial office
- · Record of community involvement
- · Administrative ability
- Devotion to improvement of the quality of justice
- Demonstrated sound judgment in professional life

The most important of these traits are judicial temperament, character and <u>integrity</u>. Without integrity, a judge cannot be fair and impartial. Integrity means putting aside personal prejudice and partisan political influences. Above all though, it means strictly adhering to, and honoring one's Oath of Office.

Auden Grogens' tenure in the CT Legislature has proven that she is not capable of honoring that Oath because she violated it many times while serving. She introduced and co-sponsored several bills which significantly eroded the constitutionally protected rights of Connecticut Citizens. Article 1, Section 15 of the CT State Constitution is very clear. However, the nominee has clearly shown she is not capable of comprehending those very simple words and certainly would not be willing to interpret them in an unbiased manner. I also have no confidence that she would respect the other enumerated rights contained in our State Constitution. Connecticut needs and deserves an impartial arbiter of the law, not a judicial activist.

I ask the members of this Committee and the rest of the CT General Assembly to <u>OPPOSE</u> this nomination. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Kurt Weisheit